



# *St. Timothy Tidings*

## *August, 2025*



### **From the Pastor**

As the busy summer months come to an end, I've resumed an old habit. I start each day by naming three things for which I'm grateful and three things about which I am excited. At the end of the day, I write down three "wins" from the day as well as one thing I'll do to improve. The practice helps me to begin and end each day in thanksgiving for God's gifts and to reflect on one way I can better live into my baptismal call to discipleship.

It's important to center ourselves in God's goodness, particularly when we feel besieged by those forces which rebel against God's mission to heal, reconcile, and save. In the final month of summer, our scripture texts in worship will point us again and again to our holy center and to God's action.

We'll begin with naming what matters and what doesn't, and look to Christ revealed in word and sacrament as where we find meaning. Then we'll think about Christ revealed in our own lives, through our words and actions.

The following week scriptures' authors remind us that God comes to us and serves us without shame. They follow with a call to action: naming how we see God at work in us and in the world.

The third week of August is a disturbing message. Jesus declares himself the great divider. It's worth pondering from what Jesus seeks to divide us. Sin and death-dealing actions, both individual and collective, drive Jesus' determination to drive wedges between us and whatever separates us from life in God.

The fourth week we see God in Christ setting the captive free, healing on the sabbath, and restoring someone to community. It's disruptive to those who witness these actions. Once again, Jesus is a disturber of the peace, including our own.

We'll close out the summer with laying on of hands, anointing, the blessing and commissioning of faith formation leaders, and God's invitation to us to keep turning back to our center, the One who gives us life. And we'll also notice how God urges us to extend that invitation to others.

This Christian life isn't easy. It calls us to cling to hope in spite of discouragement, despair, and plain old tiredness. It calls us to turn, return, and re-turn to God, finding ourselves once again in font and table and word, held within the body of Christ. It calls us to lives of thankfulness and praise, both for what God has done, is doing, and will do in our lives and in the life of the world, but also for what God equips us to do as God's holy people.

As summer closes, may you find moments of thankfulness, and moments when you see God calling you into deeper discipleship.

In Christ,  
Pastor Amanda



## From Our Music Director

*"Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through music." - Martin Luther*

### **Surrender to Change**

**I Surrender All (CeCe Winans) - <https://youtu.be/xrgnlEJKS50?si=OPz-yJoyi8ySTgM8>**

*All to Jesus I surrender, All to Him I freely give;  
I will ever love and trust Him, In His presence daily live.*

*Refrain:  
I surrender all,  
I surrender all;  
All to Thee, my blessed Savior,  
I surrender all.*

*All to Jesus I surrender, Make me, Savior, wholly Thine;  
Let me feel Thy Holy Spirit, Truly know that Thou art mine. [Refrain]*

*All to Jesus I surrender, Lord, I give myself to Thee;  
Fill me with Thy love and power, Let Thy blessing fall on me. [Refrain]*

Change—whether welcome or unwelcome—can stretch us in ways we never imagined. Yet when we surrender to God, we embrace the one true constant in this life, a constant that provides us security.

I've recently been reflecting on the amount of change I've experienced over the past year. It started when I stepped in as the Interim Director of Music Ministry, and then got engaged shortly after. My now wife and I spent months planning and saving for our wedding, preparing ourselves for one of the biggest changes of our lives. I later took off the interim tag and embraced my music ministry role permanently. My wife and I got married and I helped her move to Tennessee. While we finished up our honeymoon, I got a call from my mother letting me know that our dog of fifteen years, Rufus, was going to need to be let go as he declined in his old age.

That's a lot of life packed into twelve months. Every one of these moments some element of joy, stress, growth, and uncertainty, challenging not just myself, but my wife, our families, and friends.

In the midst of so much movement, one truth has remained steady: God does not change. Malachi 3:6 reminds us plainly: "I the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed" (NIV).

Part of my wife and I's honeymoon was a week-long trip to DisneyWorld. While there, we rode a number of rides and roller coasters.

Change can feel like a rollercoaster—highs, lows, sharp turns, and sudden drops. We don't always know what's coming next. But if you've ever been on a rollercoaster, you know the key to staying safe isn't in controlling the ride—it's in holding tightly to the safety bar. That safety bar doesn't move. It stays with you through the entire ride. God is that steady presence. When we cling to Him — when we surrender our control, our fears, our need to have it all figured out—we find security in the One who remains unchanged.

Surrendering to God isn't a sign of weakness. It's an act of trust. It's saying, "I don't have all the answers—but I know the One who does."

Alex Domeier, Director of Music Ministry

*An extra note: As our congregation comes back together from the annual summer trips and traveling, our music ministries are returning with force and gladness to serve. We have two ensembles (Choir and Handbells), and plenty of other opportunities to facilitate service of God's Kingdom. If you are interested in embracing a little more change this year, please know that there is plenty to do in this ministry. I'd love to talk with you more if you have questions, or want to be involved!*



## Upcoming Events



### Sunshine Girls Bible Study

The Sunshine Girls will resume the study of Matthew on Tuesday, September 16. You are invited to join this group of fun and interesting ladies when the Bible Study resumes in the fall. They meet on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month in the Community Room at 10:00am. Everyone is welcome!

### FELLOWSHIP POTLUCK



### MONTHLY POTLUCK

We have a Monthly Potluck in Founders Hall after the Sunday morning worship service! Please join with your fellow congregants after worship to enjoy fun, food and fellowship. Sunday, August 10th is our next potluck.

### Bluebirds News

The BLUEBIRDS' next meeting will be Tuesday, September 9, 2025, 11:30 am, at O'Charlie's Restaurant, 1009 Village Green Crossing, Gallatin. Have a great summer! See you all then!



## Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Save the date! Our two Scout troops (Troop 157- Boys and Troop 9- Girls) will be hosting a Spaghetti fundraiser dinner on **Saturday, August 16th** at 5pm in Founders Hall. We hope this will be a great opportunity for fun, fellowship and an opportunity for the community to support our Scouts in all of their adventures!





## *Upcoming Events*



# BACK TO SCHOOL

# BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Sunday, August 3rd@ 10:30AM

All students, teachers, or anyone else who helps with learning is invited to bring their backpack, tote bag, or lunch box to be blessed





**FAITH FORMATION**

# **RALLY DAY**

**Meet your teachers and have some  
fun! All ages invited.**

**SUNDAY SEPT. 7 9AM**

**Founder's Hall  
St. Timothy Lutheran Church**





## Beer & Hymns Oh, what fun we had!



**Thanks to everyone who joined us! A very special thanks to Matt Steinhauer and Jim Dineen for being our fearless leaders.**

### Outreach Opportunity for August

Let's help the Sumner County Resource Center send our Sumner County school students back to school with these needed necessities. Needed Items:

- \*Adult no show black sock
- \*Deodorant (boys and girls)
- \*Body wash (boys and girls)



The Outreach committee will be collecting these items **during the month of August**. Please put them in the collection bin labeled "Sumner County Resource Center."  
Thanks for loving our neighbors.

## From the Stewardship & Finance Committee: Other Ways to Give financial gifts to St. Timothy

This is a very serious and important season for St. Timothy as we are faced with a very expensive replacement cost for the A/C in the sanctuary. Some might consider giving an extra gift of a STOCK. Also, if you are 70 ½, age or older, here is another way to give from your investments while reducing your taxable income. (Dr. Dale Olson)

### **Request a QCD (Qualified Charitable Distribution):**

A Qualified Charitable Distribution allows you to donate directly to a charity like St. Timothy Lutheran Church which counts toward your RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) and may reduce your taxable income.

### **Submitting Your Request to your Investment Firm.**

**Step 1. Select the QCD Amount.** Select the dollar amount for the QCD (Maximum of \$108,000) that will be withdrawn from your account's fund.

**Step 2. Verify the Charity (St. Timothy Lutheran Church).** Your investment firm will have a database of charities for your convenience. You can verify "St. Timothy Lutheran Church of Hendersonville, TN" as the charity that you wish to receive the amount.

**Step 3. After you submit the request to your investment firm, they will mail you a check** with the primary address of St. Timothy Lutheran Church. (Usually, the check should arrive within 10 business days. **Or some investment firms will electronically send the amount directly to the charity.**

**Step 4. If your investment firm sends you the check, you are responsible to send the check or bring the check to St. Timothy.**

**Step 5. St. Timothy will send you a receipt of your gift for proof when you file your taxes.**

Our thanks to all of you for your generous financial support of St. Timothy. This is a season that we need everyone to consider a gift to the glory of God. All are special in the eyes of God.



## CHOIR AND HANDBELL REHEARSALS RESUME!

It's that time again! Weekly Wednesday rehearsals for Choir and Handbells will resume on Wednesday, August 6th. Handbell rehearsals run from 6pm to 7pm in

Founders Hall (to be continued in the Sanctuary once the HVAC situation is resolved). Choir rehearsals run from 7pm to 8pm in the Choir Room. If you are at all interested in serving the Lord's kingdom through this vibrant ministry, please join us on August 6th! If you have any questions, please contact Alex Domeier at (704) 620 - 4685, or at [jadomeier16@gmail.com](mailto:jadomeier16@gmail.com).







# August 2025 Meetings

Date	Committee	Time	Location	Notes
Wed Aug 6	Outreach	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Zoom	Contact Melissa House for more information
Thurs Aug 7	Property	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Community Room	For more information contact Baker Kirkpatrick
Tue Aug 12	Learning	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Janel Tucker or Melanie Ortman.
Thurs Aug 21	Community Garden	6:00 - 7:00 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Ron Morgenstern
Thurs Aug 21	Stewardship/ Finance	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Zoom	Contact David Miley for more information
Mon Aug 25	Youth	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Zoom	Contact Melanie Ortman for more information
Tue Aug 26	Worship & Music	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Library	Contact Alex Domeier for more information
Thurs Aug 28	Executive Committee	6:00 - 6:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Ken Tsuchiyama
Thurs Aug 28	Congregational Council	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Community Room	For more information, contact Ken Tsuchiyama





## Council Corner

During our July meeting while Pr. Amanda was sharing her report she made the comment, "Wow! In most congregations, Summer is the time things kinda' slow down. But not here at St. Tims! Nope. We have had a full, busy time in the life of this church!" Worship attendance is consistently higher and our committees are very active collaborating on new programming, looking at different ways in which to serve our community, worship planning, and much, much more. But the great thing is there's always room for more folks to be involved, so consider this your invitation!

If you're interested in:

- Worship & Music Committee reach out to Dorothy Jones at columbiadot@gmail.com
- Choir and/or Handbells reach out to Alex Domeier jadomeier16@gmail.com
- Property Committee reach out to Baker Kirkpatrick at kirkpatrickbaker@gmail.com
- Stewardship & Finance Committee reach out to Matt Adkins at MAdkins2@humana.com
- Outreach Committee reach out to Melissa House at melissahh91@gmail.com
- Hospitality Committee reach out to Sarah Mariott at sarah.mariott@yahoo.com
- Youth Committee reach out to Melissa Chowning at melissa.luther67@gmail.com
- Learning Committee reach out to Janel Tucker at janeltucker@yahoo.com

Congregation Council hope you will join us in extending a heartfelt thank you to Dale Olson for sharing his talents as our Interim Organist/Accompanist. What a blessing he has been during this transition time in our parish. And we welcome Gretchen Person as our permanent Organist/Accompanist.

Other happenings around the parish....

Bryce Yamin is gathering a group together for Pub Theology, a five-week deep dive into a particular topic. This late summer, he's offering a discussion group on immigration, theology, and public policy. If interested in participating, please talk with Bryce (bryceyamin@gmail.com).

August 3rd - Blessing of the Backpacks during our Sunday Worship service

August 10th - Monthly Potluck after our Sunday Worship service

August 16th 5-9 - Troop 9 & Troop 157 Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Never hesitate to reach out to any member of council for anything!

Peace~ Congregation Council

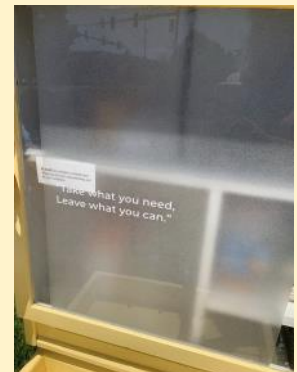
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Sarah Mariott	Hospitality Committee	sarah.mariott@yahoo.com	(281) 536-9828
Melanie Ortman	Learning Committee	rxsouthpaw@sbcglobal.net	(832) 326-3360
Jennifer Howard	Youth Committee	jhoward0419@gmail.com	(615) 484-3623

# Celebrating Paul Ramsay's birthday after Saturday, July 13th service!



## BLESSING BOX

Thank you to LuAnn Welham for filling the Blessing Box recently. We are so glad St. Timothy offers this for the community. Thank you to EVERYONE who helps keep the Blessing Box stocked and organized!





## Farewell and Godspeed to the Elberts

Farewell and Godspeed to Marilyn and Steve, such a wonderful couple who have done so much for St. Timothy! They will be sorely missed but we know they will be so happy to move closer to their family.



## Journey Garden News



The garden is growing wonderfully with the recent rain and hot weather we have had.

Thanks to ALL of our fantastic volunteers who help to keep it weeded and watered!

The fruits of your labors are being taken to the Samaritan Center and they are SO happy to receive it!



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**Google**

**Don't forget to review St. Timothy Lutheran Church on Google!**

It's a proven fact that organizations with five or more reviews get seen much more frequently on Google!

Use this link: <https://g.page/r/CWZC8v0DAfGREBM/review>

# Resources

*Here are a few resources to help guide you as you continue your faith journey!*

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

<https://elca.org/>

Southeastern Synod ELCA

<https://www.elca-ses.org/>

Reconciling Works

<https://www.reconcilingworks.org/>

Living Lutheran Magazine

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/>

ELCA Daily Bible Readings

<https://elca.org/Faith/DailyBible/>

Luther Seminary God Pause Daily Devotion

<https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/>



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To make a donation on our website, click the QR code to the left or scan it with your phone. We give thanks for all those gifts that help us further the glory of God's kingdom in a world in need.



The Tidings, the newsletter of St. Timothy Lutheran Church, is published monthly. Articles, story ideas, and comments can be emailed to [sttimtidings@gmail.com](mailto:sttimtidings@gmail.com). Deadline for the September 2025 issue is August 25th. Please [contact the church office](#) with any questions.



*A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)*

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The Rev. Amanda Spangler, Pastor  
Alex Domeier, Director of Music Ministries  
Gretchen Person, Accompanist  
Nancy Krieg, Church Administrative Assistant  
The Rev. Paul Frank, Pastor Emeritus